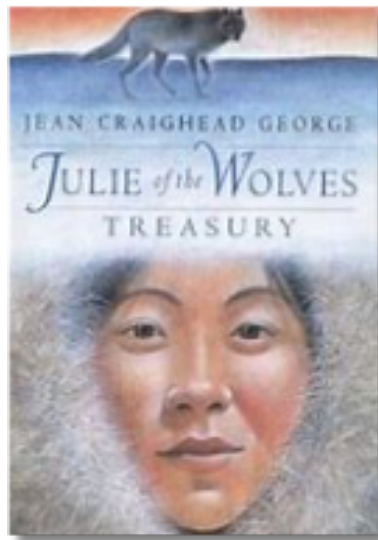


# JULIE OF THE WOLVES

*Jean Craighead George*



## **RESOURCE GUIDE**

***Reading + Writing + Analysis***

**NO PREP**

**PRINT & GO**

**Upper Elementary**

# About the Text

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*Julie of the Wolves* tells the story of Miyax, an Inuit girl stranded alone in the Alaskan wilderness. As she struggles to survive, she learns to observe and communicate with a pack of wolves while reflecting on her identity, family, and future.

The novel explores survival, independence, and the relationship between humans and nature. Through Miyax's journey, readers examine how courage, adaptability, and cultural identity shape personal growth.

# About the Author

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Jean Craighead George was an American author who wrote many popular books for kids about nature and animals. Some of her most famous books include *My Side of the Mountain* and *Julie of the Wolves*, which both tell stories about young people learning how to survive and live in the wild. She loved nature and often wrote about animals, forests, and the outdoors to help readers understand and appreciate the natural world. Her stories also teach important lessons about independence, courage, and respecting nature.

# Section Breakdown

## •Section 1: Chapters 1–8

Miyax becomes stranded and begins observing the wolves

## Section 2: Chapters 9–16

Survival challenges, memories, and growing understanding

## Section 3: Chapters 17–24

Conflict, decisions, and personal growth

## KEY THEMES

- Survival and resilience
- Identity and belonging
- Nature and humanity
- Independence and growth
- Family and tradition

## BEFORE YOU READ

- What skills are needed to survive in the wilderness?
- How can nature teach important lessons?
- What does it mean to belong somewhere?
- How do traditions shape identity?

## *Comprehension Questions:* *SECTION 1: Chapters 1–8*

1. Why is Miyax stranded in the wilderness?
2. How does she first respond to her situation?
3. What observations does she make about the wolves?
4. What survival challenges does she face?
5. How does the setting impact the story?



# *Comprehension Questions*

## *SECTION 2: Chapters 9–16*

1. How does Miyax begin to understand the wolves?
2. What memories from her past are revealed?
3. How does her cultural background influence her actions?
4. What challenges continue to threaten her survival?
5. How does Miyax begin to change?

# Quick Discussion

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## Time to Reflect

*How can difficult experiences  
lead to growth?*

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# *Comprehension Questions*

## *SECTION 3: Chapters 17–24*

1. What important decisions does Miyax face?

2. How does her relationship with the wolves change?

3. What conflicts arise near the end of the story?

4. How has Miyax grown throughout the novel?

5. What message does the ending suggest?

# Quick Discussion

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## Time to Reflect

*What does it mean to find your place in the world?*

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# *Understanding the Big Ideas*

## **This story explores:**

- **Nature can teach important lessons**
- **Survival requires courage and adaptability**
- **Identity is shaped by experience and tradition**
- **Growth often comes through challenges**

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***How does Miyax grow and change throughout Julie of the Wolves? Use specific examples from the text to support your response.***

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# Extension Activity

**Choose one activity to complete.**



- Research Arctic wolves and their behavior



- Create a survival guide based on Miyax's experiences



- Compare Miyax's life in nature with modern society

# Final Project

Choose One:

- **Character Analysis Essay**

Explain how Miyax changes throughout the novel

- **Theme Presentation**

Analyze a theme such as survival or identity

- **Nature Connection Project**

Explore how the natural environment influences the story

# Vocabulary

- 1.tundra: A cold, flat region where trees do not grow
- 2.migration: When animals move from one place to another at certain times of the year
- 3.pack: A group of animals that live and hunt together (like wolves)
- 4.territory: An area that an animal or group protects and lives in
- 5.predator: An animal that hunts other animals for food
- 6.prey: An animal that is hunted by another animal
- 7.survival: Staying alive in difficult conditions
- 8.instinct: A natural way of acting that animals are born knowing how to do
- 9.howl: A long, loud sound made by wolves
- 10.den: A shelter where animals live or raise their young
- 11.scavenger: An animal that eats dead animals it did not hunt
- 12.Arctic: A very cold region around the North Pole
- 13.blizzard: A strong snowstorm with heavy wind
- 14.isolation: Being alone or separated from others
- 15.adaptation: A change that helps a living thing survive in its environment
- 16.communication: Sharing information or signals with others
- 17.leadership: The ability to guide or lead a group
- 18.starvation: A dangerous lack of food
- 19.hunting: Searching for and catching animals for food
- 20.survival skills: Abilities that help someone stay alive in difficult environments

## **Optional / advanced words:**

- 1.Inuit: Indigenous people who live in Arctic regions such as Alaska, Canada, and Greenland
- 2.ecosystem: All the living and nonliving things in an area that interact together
- 3.dependence: Relying on someone or something else
- 4.independence: Being able to do things on your own without relying on others